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Psycho-list

Are You Ready For World Car Free Day?
Jake the Biker catches us up on what's happening with the bikers. Did you know he's planning on sitting on the Toronto Cycling Committee? Check out all the news. Page 2

DIALOG/BMG PROMO



Dave Matthews Band Giveaway

Be the first full-time student to get to the Dialog Office and receive the latest CD from the Dave Matthews Band. Where is the Dialog office? See page 3

TAKE THIS JOB AND...



Want a Job in the College?

The Student Association has positions available for the summer as well as the 2001-2002 school year. Check it all out at our Job Fair, Casa Loma, April 9, Casa Loma, April 9, 11-3; St. James, April 11-3. **CHECK IT OUT!**

HERE'S FRANK...



Frank Sorochinsky helps out.
College President Frank Sorochinsky serves coffee at the Student Association's Second Cup foundation in aid of eliminating student hunger. More pictures inside.
CHECK IT OUT!



DOH! A New Prez!

All kidding aside, congratulations are in order for our new president! Earlier this month, Kevin King won the election race for the illustrious title of president for the upcoming school year. Kevin brings to the office of the president an impressive list of past achievements which include membership in the Rexdale Youth Council, The Boys and Girls club, and the Toronto Youth Cabinet (the voice of 300,000 youth!).

Kevin is a student in the business marketing program and is also in the running for a Harry Jerome Award. Congratulations are also in order to the other winners, Charles Baker, Udana Muldoon, and Nikki "Dread Wonder" McAllister, winners of Rep-Hospitality, VP Education, and VP Casa Loma, respectively. We all look forward to the great work you'll do in the upcoming year!

WHAT ARE THE TEN PRAGMATISMS? CHECK OUT PAGE 3

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VeloCity: The new Bike Column

by Jake the Biker

(formerly known as DiaCycle)

So my dear friends, I have finally joined the establishment.

For years, I fought for the individual. I protested the nuclear bomb, I marched for peace, not war.

I tried to stop Bill 128, I was even a member of an unpopular left-of-centre political party. I read, and at least partly believed, *The Worker*, I was a member of a commune and a food co-op.

But, dear readers, I have sold out. In a search for raw power, I have decided to take a chance and run for a position on the Toronto Cycling Committee.

I know that you will be shocked by this. You say that for the last three years I have expressed the thoughts of the anarchist wing of the cycling community. Get out of my way you mother-fucking SUV owner. You don't own the road, I do.

You only drive that overpriced, gas-guzzling shiv-box because you are impotent and live in Markham (I don't know which is

patchwork which makes up our city communities.

Then, why, you might ask, am I applying to become part of the

must insist.

I'm looking to the police to spend the time they formerly used to enforce stop sign laws to stop jerks from parking in bike lanes. I want to make sure the promised express bike lane running along the former Gardiner Expressway is actually built. This agenda must be approached from a position of power, not subservience. To quote Leonard Cohen, when it comes to getting things done: "I'm your man".

On other matters, April 19 is World Car-Free Day. Contrary to how it sounds, cars are not being given away free that day, but everyone is encouraged to walk, cycle or use public transportation. If we did it everyday, we wouldn't be worrying about greenhouse gases and holes in the ozone layer. One day won't save the world, but as Chairman Mao said, "A journey of a thousand

more like hell: not being able to get it up, or having to give up a third of my life sitting in a vehicle.)

Yes, I know I've preached dramatically about living where you work, and about community and quality of life issues. I live these values and I am proud to be a member of the cultural

biking intelligencia? It's just this: I'm tired of not having a voice. Why must I be forced to bike on the side of a road filled with carcinogen-belching vehicles with internal combustion engines. I am green, and I should get special treatment. Bikers won't get this unless they demand it. They can't ask; they

kilometres starts with a single footstep."

One other initiative which deserves much praise is a group who are starting bicycle hubs throughout the city. Look for an ad elsewhere in the Dialog. These guys are asking for donations of bikes which they will repair, paint a bright yellow and make available to members at these hubs throughout the city. It sounds freaky and far-too-sixties, but I love it. If you've got an old beater to give, they are just a call away.

I never thought you'd catch me wearing Lycra.

It's spring, and bikers thoughts turn to the Bike Show at the CNE. This is the first time I've attended, because I always figured that these kinds of shows are for people who don't have a life.

I'm the kind of guy who bikes all winter, rain, freezing rain, ice pellets. Throw me your worst, God! I've biked when it's raining dog shiv ("no foolin") and I've never complained. I also don't wear that namby-pamby clothing that some fair weather bikers put on. I'm talking about those skin-tight black Lycra shorts and that kind of thing.

This winter was the first in three I that biked every day. If there was ten centimetres of snow I'd take the King car, but otherwise I was there EVERY DAY!

My usual dress allowed me to bike on the better days, but when it was -15 with an evil wind chill, I found it a bit tough wearing the equipment I had.

Normally, I wear my regular clothing and then add a layer or two for insulation and waterproofing.

You'll catch me biking in January with a Mountain Equipment Coop shell and a pair of foul weather rubber pants I normally wear on my friend's sailboat. I wear cotton next to my skin and that's about it.

This winter, I was told that that kind of clothing can give you hypothermia. I should be wearing something next to my skin that will wick away moisture. I think they were right. I biked through the worst winter on record and I feel great!

One last thing. City Bike Week starts on Friday, May 25. Yes, only in the City of Toronto do weeks start on Friday. On the plus side it runs until the following Thursday, which, surprise, is the end of the month. There is a bikers' breakfast on the Monday at City Hall. Be there and say hello.



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The Ten Pragmatics

by Allan Stokell

Each year about this time I feel compelled to pass on some sage and friendly advice to students who are graduating.

The advice usually comes in the form of a list of do's and don'ts which I feel will help with new careers. It includes such advice as "don't get sexually involved with your boss," and "never, never take anything from work."

This year I am taking a slightly different approach with what I call the Ten Pragmatics. These ten bits of advice are actually taken from the Old Testament, and I have taken the liberty to update them to be more meaningful in our society. The fact that this advice is

5000 years old is a testament to how valuable it really is.

Our society evolved around these basic tenets.

I somehow imagine that Moses had something in mind when he came up with them. The Israelites had been wandering in the desert for 40 years and they were just about in full rebellion. Moses went up into the hills on a retreat to contemplate and returned to tell everyone that he saw a fiery bush and heard the voice of God. I've been on retreats like that.

It's really true. There are some people you simply cannot trust, and often these people appear to really have their shit together; if you don't realize

you are being conned by these people, you will be swallowed up by them.

Often I hear people talking and their coarse language is almost too much to take. I often wonder what they will do at a job interview where they will be expected to be polite and use business language, not street talk.

Speaking as a former workaholic, I believe it is important to take time to be with your friends and family. Recently, I went to an informational interview at a high-tech firm. They were showing off their staff lounge. It included a bar with a cappuccino machine and draught beer. The leather couches were ideal for sleeping. When I asked, the HR person said "We are looking for people without a life." Always make sure you have a life.

1. Don't trust other dudes, especially if you don't know them.

2. Don't go with what these people do and say, cause they might be shittin' you.

3. Don't blaspheme; you sound like trash.

4. Take a day off during the week, and just relax with your friends and family.

5. Your parents may appear to have shit for brains, but they've stayed alive longer than you. Find out why.

6. Don't "off" anybody. It's really not cool and you'll spend 25 years in jail. How old will you be in 2026?

7. Don't poke other people's partners. The complications are too great. Jack-off instead.

8. Don't take things that don't belong to you.

9. Don't lie. You will be caught and you will feel like shit.

10. Don't desire consumables that belong to friends and neighbours.

Often, our parents seem to be these incredibly dim-witted people who are not in touch with our realities. That said, they have survived and they know something that you don't. Keep the doors of communication open. When they are gone, it is too late. Never physically injure another person. You will never have a career if you have a criminal record.

Don't do anything...anything that could get you jail time.

Sex is great. You may like it for recreation or procreation, but one thing that can get you into a lot of trouble is having sex with someone else's partner. Two words: Temptation Island.

Don't steal anything. That includes pencils from the office. You will be caught and then you will have to explain why you were fired to your next boss.

Beware of liars. Always tell the truth, and be careful when dealing with others. I always distance myself from people I know who lie a lot. They are probably including you in their lies and you will never have a chance to defend yourself. Start your purge by making it a point not to lie. It will be difficult at first but rewarding later. When I first graduated I saved some money and went backpacking. It was great. With all my possessions in the world on my back, I was truly liberated. Later when I started living with my life partner, we started to accumulate stuff. Soon we were trapped by the sheer weight of our own stuff. I started to desire consumables that other people had. I wanted a VCR and a colour TV. Recently I was biking in Europe. I had to carry everything with me. It reminded me of my earlier days. Reducing your desire to have possessions will set you free.

Go forth and be fruitful. The smart shall inherit the earth.

COMMENTARY

Goodnight Irene

By Edwin Huang

Holy Toledo! The school year is coming to an end (I still haven't bothered to get my student card yet though-tall about lazy...). There is a season that comes after winter, right? If you are like myself, you are anxious to grab that diploma you've earned from this edumacation and get on with that little sumthin'-sumthin'. Bring on the SUMMER!

Alas, the time is near for me to say goodbye to y'all. This will be my last issue as editor of the Dialog newspaper—the official voice of GBC. I remember, with hesitation, accepting this position at the end of last year not knowing if I could competently handle juggling this position with the other work I do in the community; as well as trying to hold my own as a full-time Community Worker Student. All in all, I am grateful for the media experience that I have gained as a member of the Dialog

Collective. To be truthful, I would be lying to say to you that I am currently or in the future will be pursuing a journalism career. The time I have spent between these four walls really can be narrowed down to one word—FUN. The job as editor can become mechanical at times but luckily I have friendly robots to work with, and put up with my sometimes bi-polar personality. I will truly miss the characters of the assorted cast, which come together to form the Dialog unit. All fully interchangeable, all ready at beckon call to back each other up and to support one another mentally or physically, whatever the case may be. (*cough-VANCOUVER-cough*).

All of a sudden I feel like I'm at the Oscar Awards except you can't see through my dress and our judging is based on true merit here. Any who, I am beginning to ramble on here, as I usually do (it seems as though I've just missed my train of thought and it's the last train to Kipling...) so I'd like to thank my mentor Allen (Yoda-wise, but not old, better looking and not

green either), Jackie (Zena)—I appreciate all the hard work you've done behind the scene this year—Girl, you are running rings right, and tight!, Maribelle (Obi Wan Shinobi/Asiatic Princess—you seem to appear at the right moments and get it done in the end), Sera (Crouching Tiger, Hidden Wagon Wheel-this girl got snacks up the yin yang-truth!), and in regards for space but not without eternal gratitude, thanks to all the contributors, interns and volunteers who helped out this year.

I leave you with a quote, or three...

"The spirit knows that its growth is the real aim of existence."—Saul Bellow.
"Education's purpose is to replace an empty mind with an open one."—Malcolm S. Forbes.

"If we don't change, we don't grow. If we don't grow, we are not really living. Growth demands a temporary surrender of security."—Gail Sheehy.

I wish you all the best in the future. Keep on keepin' on!
Edwin Huang

Our Community

Notes to Editor: 1. The use of the capital "D" in "Deal" is significant and identifies a group of people who consider themselves "Cultural Deaf" and therefore appropriately use the capital "D".

2. "Hands Waving" at end of article shows how Deaf people 'clap' for appreciation of a presentation.

"Deaf Spotlight" is a Deaf presenter series hosted two times each semester by Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services. On March 9th, we were thrilled to have Dr. Dave Mason present to a group of 60 deaf and hearing GBC students and staff on "Past, Present and Future: How Changes in Technology Effect the Deaf Community". Dr. Dave Mason is a famous person in the Canadian Deaf Community. He is the first deaf Canadian graduate of a residential school for the Deaf to obtain a PhD Degree. Dr. Mason is a graduate from Gallaudet University (the only Liberal Arts University in the world for Deaf students). He also has a PhD in Bilingual / Bicultural Education from the University of Alberta. Dr. Mason

is a Professor at York University in the Teacher of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Preparation Program.

Dr. Mason presented in American Sign Language (ASL),

disappointed to find that Deaf person not at home. Or they would need to depend on a hearing family member or friend to make calls for them, meaning a great loss of privacy. In the 1970's, the more widespread use

dramatically and more Deaf students are in mainstream programs, ASL is no longer shunned as a second rate language, but rather is celebrated as the language of instruction in Deaf schools across North America.

Dr. Mason gave examples of how technology has had both a positive and negative impact on the Deaf Community and all people. Banking is faster and can be done at any time of the day due to bank machines. Communication at work is made faster and easier by using E-mail and electronic pagers (with E-mail) that allow Deaf people to work and compete for jobs as never before. Technology has also changed how people use their leisure time, with more time spent playing games on the Internet, Nintendo-64® and Sega® than physical activity. For Deaf people, watching TV is now better due to more captioned TV programs. Perhaps this increase in sedentary activity is one of the negative effects of technology.

Education for Deaf people has also changed. Although the number of students in Deaf residential schools has dropped

the visual - gestural language of the Deaf Community. Sign Language Interpreters and computerized note takers translated his presentation into English; however, most of the audience use ASL as a first or second language.

During his two-hour presentation, Dr. Mason highlighted how technology has impacted on the Deaf community. For example, in the early 1960's, the Deaf Community had no access to the telephone. Deaf people would need to travel, sometimes a great distance, to chat with a Deaf friend, and were often

of the TTY (text typewriter phone device) meant greater and faster access to other Deaf and hearing people. However, widespread use of the TTY also meant a greater need for using English, generally considered the second language of Culturally Deaf people. Even professional sign language interpreters have only been available in the last 20 years. Before that, Deaf people relied mostly on hearing family and friends to provide rudimentary 'interpretation' as necessary.

Education for Deaf people has also changed. Although the number of students in Deaf residential schools has dropped

internet allows people to communicate with each other using sign language, although in most cases the communication is still bit choppy looking. He also highlighted how access to the World Wide Web and the immediate information that it contains means power in today's world. We can immediately find answers to any question we have about new laws, health or any topic of interest. Due to constant advances in telecommunications, Dr. Mason predicts that in the very near future, we will be able to access the Web in ASL. Today's software capabilities allow text to be translated from one language to another, and soon sophisticated technology will exist to efficiently translate English text to ASL and ASL to English. Since many Deaf people do not use English as a first language, this will be something powerful to look forward to in the next year or two.

Thanks to Dr. Mason for a very dynamic, educational and cultural presentation! (Hands waving)

Ability Issues

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FTAA = CA\$H + MISERY

By Darren Stewart, Human Rights Bureau

OTTAWA (CUP) — Legal experts say investor rights could become more important than human rights in a world governed by the Free Trade Agreement of the Americas (FTAA).

Canada should oppose this trend and work to protect and recognize international human rights laws that have already been ratified, said Warren Allmand, a former Liberal cabinet minister and current president of Rights and Democracy.

Allmand took part today in an expert panel that made recommendations regarding human rights within trade agreements to the House of Commons' standing committee on trade.

The committee will make a recommendation to the Canadian government regarding its position on free trade when it attends the upcoming Summit of the Americas meeting in Quebec City.

At the April 20 to 22 meeting of 34 countries, officials will be hammering out the terms of a 2005 free trade agreement for an area stretching from the Arctic to Argentina. Critics fear the FTAA will allow investor rights to override workers' rights and women's rights and are looking for governments to agree on a way to enforce human rights within the agreement. Allmand said Canada has ratified various

international declarations on human rights that should apply to trade.

"Otherwise we are hypocrites. We say one thing and vote one way on human rights when it is convenient to do so, then go out and sign trade agreements that completely ignore or contradict our human rights commitments."

Allmand recommended an overhaul of the proposed trade agreement to include room to comply with international agreements, rather than override them. He said Canada should take advantage of the FTAA negotiations as a way of re-examining international human rights obligations and seek to ensure that there are no conflicts with the proposed trade agreement.

According to Allmand, claims by the Canadian government that it intends to meet human rights guidelines are still suspect because the details of its plan are still unavailable.

"We await the specific texts and find it absolutely unbelievable that they aren't already before members of parliament and the public." He said there are various examples of how human rights violations are overridden by investor rights under the World Trade Organization and the North American Free Trade Agreement. He fears the FTAA will be no different.

Bill Dymond, executive director for the Centre for Trade Policy and Law, a collection of trade-law experts, said criticism of trade agreements when it comes

to human rights are unfounded because the richest countries in the hemisphere have the best human rights records.

"It won't work to keep these countries poor by denying them free trade agreements," said Dymond, who was also part of the panel. "Their human rights record will stay poor as well." But Bloc MP Francis Lalonde said it would be wrong to see free trade as a "saviour" for poorer countries in the coming years because so far it has not translated into better distribution of wealth in countries like Mexico that are already in free trade agreements.

"We have to be careful not to make trade into a dogma that it creates wealth," she said.

She said it is important to remember that trade and the fight against poverty do not go hand-in-hand.

Svend Robinson, the New Democratic Party's trade critic, said he worries that intellectual property will become better protected than health and the environment under the FTAA. As an example, he pointed to the example of drug companies that are blocking distribution of affordable AIDS medication in South Africa under WTO rules.

He said he worries that penalization of governments and corporations under the FTAA for violating trade rules will be harsher than the consequences of violating human rights.

Xact Your Career

By Paul Choi and Clifford Liu

Speaking as grade 12 co-op students, the idea of a career and a job hasn't fully registered in our minds. We were surprised to find that upon asking students from George Brown College to distinguish between the two, most showed some degree of uncertainty.

Most people tend to mix jobs and careers together. The reason being that there is NO clear distinction between jobs and careers. To vaguely separate the two, jobs tend to bring in money - a temporary financial support. Unlike jobs, people in careers get training for it, i.e.: the co-operative education programs. Basically, people who are in careers enjoy what they are doing more, and people who have jobs are just saving money for the time being.

However, the Internet is a very useful, and often free, source of information and advice on careers and jobs that help students find their own distinction between a career and

a job. There are many sites that help Canadians look at the prospects of certain careers and plan ahead for them. We've narrowed down two of the more popular sites that specialize in career and job planning. These sites also help many people find new jobs or change careers.

Sympatico has a complete and

express problems and solutions. This is probably the most helpful and unique feature available on the site. The forum topics range from "Working at home" to "Starting your own business" to "My boss is driving me crazy". Topping off the sites is the usual help in creating on-line resumes, posting resumes, and

multiple reports of your working and personal styles. As Careerxact states "Employers spend a lot of money on finding and training each new employee. Without a valid understanding of that person's "soft skills" or "fit," the employer has no idea if that person will succeed or fail. The employer wastes time and

assessment provided by Careerxact can help students kick-start their career planning by knowing what kind of jobs would complement their aptitudes and working style. Website: www.careerxact.com

There are several career web site assessment programs available for people who don't have Internet, such as [bold]Strong Inventory, the Cops system, MBTI (Myers Briggs Type Indicators), and True Colours.[bold] Here in George Brown College's counselling department, they offer those programs for a fee of \$10.00, whereas if you go to the Y or the JVS, it would cost about \$350 to \$500. "Many students change jobs six to ten times in their life time," said Diane Moore, the student counsellor of George Brown College, "It is important to give it some time and think of what you want to do." There are chances for turning back, but you would have wasted a HECK OF A LOT of your precious time. Be considerate about it.

"Careerxact is another great site devoted solely to helping people find out what kind of career would suit them best..."

comprehensive website that combines everything you need in planning a career or searching for a job with a huge job database covering every province in Canada, Sympatico offers insightful strategies and advice on keeping jobs, changing careers, and planning ahead. Not only does Sympatico showcase commentary from experienced career specialists, it also provides a public forum where employers and job-seekers can

interview preparation. This is by far one of the most comprehensive career and job guides on the Internet. Website: www.i.sympatico.ca/Contents/Careers/

Careerxact is another great site devoted solely to helping people find out what kind of career would suit them best. Careerxact offers on-line career assessment. The assessment offers secure results and

money, and frustrates everyone. Careerxact measures "soft skills". A Careerxact member can show employers, up front, that they've got the right personality, interests and work style fit, and the appropriate training and knowledge. The only downside to Careerxact is that the site doesn't offer much in the way of actually using the results to help them find jobs. The site also doesn't offer much guidance in terms of career planning. But the career

**THE CITY COLLEGE
GEORGE BROWN**

BOARD OF GOVERNORS STUDENT REP

2001-02—Candidates

MICHAEL FRANKLIN



It has come to my attention that the students of George Brown College are not being treated justly when it comes to their education. It seems that classes that have been paid for as were offered in the course calendar have either been changed, merged or have disappeared from the programs entirely, with no explanation to the students.

I say this isn't fair, I say something needs to be done about it immediately. The students of George Brown College have the right to a full education and one that they have paid for. So on April 4 and 5 vote for me for student representative to the Board of Governors and I promise to ensure that everyone gets the education they paid for and rightfully deserve.

I look forward to your support.

DWAYNE HINES



The Board of Governors makes decisions which affect how the College is run. The Board also listens to student opinions and concerns. Unless there is strong student leadership, your voice may not be heard. The leader you choose must be able to represent you at the Board level. Information that I receive will be passed on to you through the school newspaper, at meetings with the Student Association and through newsletters. If elected, I will publish telephone numbers where I can be reached.

My first concern to the Board of Governors will be to increase funding so we can try to level the effect of tuition increases. I will be visiting your campus during the election campaign, so feel free to share your opinions and concerns with me. I hope that every student will come out and give me their support.

JODI C. SHANNAHAN



"THE VOICE WITH THE EXPERIENCE" My name is Jodi Shannahan. I am interested in running for the Board of Governor's representative for the year 2001-2002. I bring 1-1/2 years experience on the Board of Directors of the Student Association which has enabled me to build a rapport with people within the College and on the Board of Governors. I believe it is very important to have a student on the Board who has been actively involved in student government and is aware of the issues that students at George Brown face. I will bring YOUR VOICE to the Board and see that OUR needs are met at George Brown College next year.

Any questions or if you need any clarification, you can reach me on my pager (416)237-2565.

Cast your vote—April 4th and 5th—St. James, Casa Loma & Nightingale

Spotlight: Serve Canada

Serve Canada-A Good Program

By Zhong Ya Lou (James)

I'm ZHONG YA LOU (James), and I am a team member of the Serve Canada 2000-2001 Program. When I began the program, I had just recently come to Canada. I was very lucky to have the chance to participate in this program. Through education and training in this program, I have really increased my knowledge of Canadian culture and the English language. Like some other people who are newcomers, I did not speak English too well when I came to Canada. But, since I have been attending this program, I have had many opportunities to improve my spoken English.

Our team, the Diverse Souls, is made up of people from diverse cultural backgrounds, so we speak English while we work and have meetings. Our program has many community partners, and we learn about community agencies in Canada and different cultures through our contact,

study and volunteer work with various community organizations. Of course, as a newcomer, I have benefited from the program in many ways. Gaining Canadian work experience is an important step in finding a job for a new comer. Our program consists of different types of community work, for instance, helping students in elementary schools and support seniors through an activity group. We have really been able to contribute, and show our love to people who really need it through this volunteer work. We have also increased our patience, confidence and ability to cooperate with others.

We all know that we are living in a beautiful environment, and that Canada was chosen as the best place to live for 5 years in a row by the United Nations; but, when you see the beautiful environment and safe place we live in, do you think of the many volunteers who help to make it the way it is? Our program provides some of these volunteers that help in many areas of our community. We hope to create a better quality of life for people through working with

community groups, and for the environment, by planting trees and creating community gardens. With our partnership with Evergreen, we held seminars to show youngsters in elementary schools how to care for the environment and to improving it as well.

The Serve Canada program has been running for 8 years, and continuously becomes more mature. Our mission statement is: "Serve Canada creates opportunities for youth from diverse racial, academic, cultural and economic backgrounds to perform meaningful service. We develop citizenship, responsibility and vision in our leaders of tomorrow through education, training and service".

We look forward to many more young people who have such aspirations to join our group in the future. As a participant you will face many challenges and receive lots of training in many different areas, and it's a great chance to spread your love to the community you live in and meet some new people.



James working at a seniors program at 55 Bleeker Street.



Lesroy, team member, taken just outside the Serve-Canada office.

My Year at Serve Canada

By Lesroy Jackson

I started Serve Canada in Sept. It is an eight-month program. The program requires a number of individuals to work together as a team in the community at various agencies. The program includes educational workshops that will improve your skills, create opportunities, and give one focus towards personal goals and work through challenges. I have gained a lot of experience by working in the community with my team, "The Diverse Souls". The program has a lot to offer youth who are willing to experience a wide variety of different areas, and improve on your current skills and abilities. In the program, there is a diverse cultural mix of team members and it gives us a chance to find out about other

people's beliefs. I think it has opened my eyes to many different perspectives on many different subjects. Serve Canada has given us the professional support, we've needed at times, for many meaningful choices and issues that we must make in the present for our futures. In one of my weekly placements, I work as a teacher's assistant. I really enjoy working with

the kids at the school. I think that I am learning as much from them as much as I teach them. For example, they have shown me how to be more creative, responsible for my actions and work tasks, along with being understanding and supportive of others. When you have these valuable skills and use them in your day-to-day life, your days go pretty much smoothly. In the past few months my team

has been supportive to me when times have become stressful. The skills that I have acquired at Serve have been both meaningful and educational. Serve Canada gives you a sense of what's really happening out in the community. You learn how to give and receive constructive feedback within a team or individually. Overall, I think this has been a good experience for me, I would recommend Serve Canada to anyone interested in community work and making a real difference. For more information on joining the Serve Canada team in the next program year, you can call:

Melanie Stewart,
Program Coordinator
at 416-933-2950
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Serve Canada Reviews



By Alex Forrest

Skipping school, smoking pot and just being a drain on society, that was my life prior to hearing about Serve Canada. Joining Serve Canada and taking part in the intensive 8-month work program has been an integral part of my life; it has helped me find a future career path. The many different projects we do allow us to build a relationship with our team as well as with the many community members we reach. The meaningful community service projects we do

are: being a teacher's aide at Queen Victoria Public School; working in a daycare with pre-school kids; Meals on Wheels; making a movie on HIV/AIDS in cooperation with the AIDS Committee of Toronto (ACT) and the playground. We also help out in the clothes line at the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health on Queen Street. The last but not least important thing Serve Canada has done for me, besides keep me out of trouble and on the right track with peer leadership unmatched anywhere, is introduced me to some incredible people with whom I hope I will have lifelong relationships.

By Hollis

In elementary school, I was one of those kids who was constantly off in space, often missing my teacher's instructions, and not understanding the lesson. I now understand that I always drifted off because sitting at my desk and staring at the blackboard bored me. I wonder how many children feel this way at school, simply because they learn more by doing - they need to learn in an interactive and experiential way.

I was recently on the other end of the teacher/student relationship at Rose Avenue Public School in St. Jamestown. My team-mates and I worked with a total of four classes, leading the children from grades 1 to 6 in a two-hour interactive workshop about seed propagation. We started by teaching a brief lesson about the cycle of a seed, beginning when it enters the soil in the fall, until it sprouts and grows into a plant through spring and summer. Then the experiential education began. While one group one was planting seeds native to Ontario, the other group painted a mural that represented their ideas of growth. The children will keep the seeds in their classrooms, caring for them so that they grow into plants. In the spring, the children,

with the help of Evergreen, will plant their native plants in a community garden in front of their school. Their mural will be mounted on the equipment shed in St.

Jamestown West Park for everyone in the neighbourhood to see. I should explain that I am not a teacher. I am a participant in an eight-month, full-time program at Serve Canada youth organization. This program challenges young people to work together to build better cities and improve our own futures. Serve Canada provides an opportunity for young people to develop responsibility, leadership and vision, through participation in community service and educational workshops.

In the Serve Canada program, participants spend eight months on a team of up to nine members and one team facilitator. We spend our weeks volunteering in meaningful community service projects in our assigned neighbourhoods - either the East end (St. Jamestown, Cabbagetown and Regent Park) or the West end (Parkdale). Our community projects include planting trees for Bring Back the Don in the Don Valley, paying friendly visits to seniors, working as teachers' assistants in schools, making a documentary on AIDS awareness, and of course, working in community gardens and an elementary school with Evergreen.

These are just a few examples of the volunteer work we do, each project being rich with opportunity and potential for the future.

We also spend one day each week in educational workshops, learning something different each time. One week, it's a first aid crash course, then the next week we are addressing oppression, discussing mental health or

doing personality assessments. So much to learn. Towards the end of the program, we finish our project work and spend a month in an internship in a field of our choice, to help us gain experience that can be used in the future.

Sound like fun? Well, this program is definitely not easy. It is emotionally, physically and mentally taxing, for each and every team member that is accepted. "Four more months. Okay, just four more months. It won't take long at all, I can survive it, just breathe now, keep breathing." This has been my mantra for the past month, a survival technique I learned while completing the first half of the Serve Canada Youth Program. So what's the point in staying? Well I ask myself that question almost everyday, and for me, there are just too many pros for me to even seriously consider leaving.

So finally, when the sweet, sweet day comes that you graduate from eight months of hard work at projects, roller-coaster team dynamics, fundraising, community presentations, article writing, job search workshops and much, much more, participants get to feel a great satisfaction: The satisfaction that we did it. Through thick and thin, we reached the end, and with enough experience to spend five years updating our resumes. And now, because I didn't want to make it about material gain, I left this sweet part to the end. Each graduating team member receives a \$2500 bursary that can be put toward education, travel or setting up a business of our own when we finish the program and all its requirements. So, once again, Serve Canada is not at all a breeze, but it is an opportunity of a lifetime.



Youth Challenge International Fundraising Event:

For the last year I have been running fundraising events in order to raise \$2000 needed to join a team in Costa Rica this summer to participate in various community development projects. As my final event I will shave my head in public. A pledge form is available at the Student Association office to support my efforts. The deadline is on April 9th.

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Agencies Available to Newcomers:

By Sudhir Nath

Fagir Ahmed

Naghmli Arshad

There are so many agencies providing good quality services to newcomers to Canada. The agencies look after them from their arrival to Canada until they feel confident and comfortable in the new environment, and become Canadian citizens.

There are three types of agencies: community-based, society based, and ethnicity based (e.g. Greek, Italian, Asian, African).

The community-based agencies help their clients to rehabilitate in their chosen community, be it ethnic, religious, or even geographic. Toronto contains a diverse array of community-based social agencies. The largest number of them were multi-service agencies, community-based health service, Service for youth and children, disabled persons and supportive housings. Usually community agencies are small and their budget and paid staff are few.

Two third of agencies are located in the city of Toronto, few are in York, Etobicoke, North York, and Scarborough. The large agencies were founded with the mandate to provide service across Greater Toronto Area (GTA), because significant number and positions of the clients come from across metro and even from outside of metro. An agency address does not necessarily equate with the area of service. According to recent studies, community agencies offer services in an impressive range of languages, which is not surprising for an area that acts as the strongest magnet for newcomers.

Agencies generally offer their services in English. Through the language diversity agencies offer their services in more than 65 languages including American Sign Language. The services that are most likely to be needed in languages other than English include immigrant-settlement long-term care and program services. Immigrants and refugees, tenants, the unemployed, victims of abuse, and people with low incomes are the people most in need of services. Government funding is the most important source of revenue for the community-based human service sectors, comprising two-thirds of their funding. The rest is managed by fundraising, private and municipal donations and the United Way.

About 42 000 people are

involved in administrating and delivering services among the 380 agencies that are generally based on community and locality. In Toronto, COSTI, SOUTH ASIAN ORGANIZATION, GREEK-CANADIAN COMMUNITY, AFRICAN COMMUNITY are the major agencies.

Italian-Canadian Community to meet the shortage of services to all immigrants in the post-war era, and is, today, a multicultural agency that works with all immigrant communities experiencing a shortage of established services. COSTI provides educational, social and unemployment services to help

centre, and a 100-bed reception centre for people who have recently come to Canada. The agency strives to be a leader in community services, using a client-based, proactive approach in planning, delivering and developing services with over 130 staff members who together speaks more than 30 languages. COSTI provides service 20 000 individuals annually. COSTI is funded by the government of Canada, the government of Ontario, the municipality of Toronto, the government of Italy, the United Way, George Brown College, the Toronto Star, Trillium Foundation, and Doctors Hospital, among others.

South Asian Agency It constitutes an integral part of the Canadian population and helps provide an understanding and recognition for the South Asian component within Canadian history. It was crucial to the development and delivery of social services to this community in as much as it helped confront social inequalities with an enlightened understanding. The trend of South Asians migrating across the British Empire is about two centuries old. Economic considerations were an integral part of the motivation behind South Asian emigration. Many of South Asians were taken abroad as indentured labourers and soldiers, while others emigrated as refugees. South Asian emigration has gone through three different phases: From 1900 to 1960,

South Asians had to fight for their right to gain entry into Canada and confront an unwelcoming immigration policy.

Liberalization in 1960, a wave of South Asians entered from their mother countries and were qualified professionals.

Immigrants who landed from family classes were from Sri Lanka, India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Korea and Vietnam. Mainstream agencies were founded to provide services to ethnospecific communities. They feel quite strongly that they provide a more efficient and less alienating service than mainstream agencies.

South Asian communities provide the following services: language instruction for newcomers to Canada (ESL), and the youth pioneer program. The Greek-Canadian community along the Danforth: It is a multi-ethnic community agency in the east end of Toronto which is especially home to many Greeks. Over 100 000 Greek Canadians live in Toronto. There are a lot of community organizations and agencies. Frankland Community Centre, New Experience for women, Human Resource Development Centre, Pape tenant community. Like every community it has its own paper, the *Toronto voice*.



COSTI

COSTI-TIAS immigrant services was formally incorporated in 1981

COSTI is Canada's largest social service agency with a specific mandate to provide services to newcomers and their families. The agency is the result of the amalgamation of the Lauder Immigrant Aid Society which was founded in 1952 and COSTI which was founded in 1962. It was founded by the

all immigrants in the Greater Toronto Area attain self-sufficiency in Canadian society. COSTI operates five employment and training centres throughout Metro Toronto and the York region, 6 ESL projects, training centers for foreign trade and a rehabilitation centre for people with disabilities, a family counselling

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Toronto Maple Leafs: A Playoff Ready Team

By Paul Choi

In the summer of 2000, the Toronto Maple Leafs boldly stated that they were building a team that would seriously contend for the Stanley Cup. By acquiring coveted free-agents Shayne Corson and Gary Roberts, the Leafs added much needed grit, leadership and scoring. Later in the summer, additional pick-ups like Bryan McCabe and Dave Manson helped re-emphasize the same tone of toughness the Leafs were aiming for.

After suffering a second-
(left) Darcy Tucker (center)
Shayne Corson (right)
Gary Roberts

round boot from the playoffs the season before, it was no wonder why the Leafs were striving for toughness and grit. Even with Wende Clark and Darcy Tucker, the Leafs were a very small and fragile team in that playoff round against the New Jersey Devils. They were pushed around all over the ice and found themselves trapped in their own zone and unable to penetrate through neutral ice. It all ended with a humiliating

six-shot attempt to stay in the round by the Leafs in the sixth game.

This year, the Leafs have shown glimpses of play-off-hockey in certain games during the regular season. When facing teams that are direct contenders such as Washington, New Jersey, or Buffalo, the Leafs turn up the intensity and immediately play in-your-face play-off-style hockey. In these games we see key gritty players like Gary Roberts, Shayne Corson, and Darcy Tucker throw their bodies around, dishing big hits and taking big hits. The intensity draws the whole team together and stars like Mats Sundin and Curtis Joseph deliver outstanding performances. Watching these games, one can see that the Leafs are a much more physical team than they were in the playoffs last season.

However, the true test of all those free-agent signings in the summer is now near. Aside from some minor call-ups from the AHL and some small trades, the Leafs look identical to the team they were in October of 2000. While the Leafs may have squandered their regular season, the real test was

always the playoffs and never the regular season. What we

playoffs. In regards to the regular season, I truly believe that the hoopla around the Eric Lindros trade talks affected their play dramatically, and injuries to key guys like Steve Thomas, Cory Cross, and Danny Markov also affected the team. But with the playoffs on the horizon, one can throw the regular season out the window. I believe the Leafs will thrive on the playoff intensity, as they have in certain games in the regular season, and challenge even the best teams. Many people have already written off the team without keeping the playoffs in mind. Everyone was predicting the Leafs would win the Stanley Cup at the beginning of the season.



can derive from the big regular season games is that the Toronto Maple Leafs' identity thrives on emotion. They come together when something important is on the line and when the odds are against them. The most recent example of this would be their hearty four-goal comeback against Pavel Bure and the Florida Panthers. The game clearly showed that this is a Leafs team that plays intensely and physically when the stakes are high.

While the Leafs have obviously shown glimpses of play-off-hockey in the regular season, we clearly haven't seen what they are truly capable of doing in the

And that's just what the prediction was: the Stanley Cup, not the regular season.

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ANNUAL TALENT TREK NITE



Randy Polydore made a cool second



Third place goes to Latisha Brown



Stacy-Ann Buchanan wins first prize in Talent Trek

On Wednesday, March the 21st, the sports marketing group @ GBC, in conjunction with Artists Against Racism threw a fundraising event at Una Mas (422 Adelaide St.) What a spread! I arrived at around 9:30pm and was swept away by the amount of effort that was put into the event! FLOW 93.5 was there giving away prize packs filled with promotional paraphernalia! Thaxn to Cliff I was able to win one! The live entertainment was the highlight of the night. One Step Beyond was truly a treat that served up the evening with flair!

WomenOfTechnoProject

A great, informative, packed 25-page magazine featuring, well you guessed it, women in techno. If you have ever been interested in the underground scene' of parties, dj's, music, and the role that women play in it, then check out this publication. All in all, with a cool color cover and type out pages, I would have to say that the magazine is well organized and easy on the eyes! It is Amanda CU's second time giving us reading material. The first one was a school project, and this one is for the love of the scene. Keep up the good work, Amanda, and we will all look forward to seeing what you come up with during the summer!

If anyone is interested in the Women of Techno Project they can e-mail Amanda @ women_of_tech@chickmail.com

And now we are on to my bi-weekly rant about whatever comes to my mind. I am presently bogged down with deadline after deadline, but am trying to tailor each of my projects to relevant issues that I find interesting. In one of my classes I am working on a debate about whether or not Toronto should get the olympic bid. In another class I am doing an anti-smoking project (I am trying to quit). Next week we are holding the interviews for our new staff here at the Dialog so I will keep you posted on the results there. Otherwise there are three weeks left and then school's out for summer (if only it would act like spring!) If there is anyone who is looking for a summer job, Hemingway's (142 Cumberland) is hiring wait staff, bussing staff, and hostesses. I won't be waiting tables this summer because I got a job in my field! YAYA for Me!!!!!!

Clifford Liu's Poetry Corner:

Song to Autumn

Summer's timely departure poetically hints an incoming ebulliency
all earthly breathing beings answer to it with an operatic ecstasy
while the ghostly marching band plays a harmonious symphony
and the Elysian birds band together to sing one last euphony
the green leaves put on their Auburn dresses
to perform a aerial ballet in orderly paces
in the epicenter of the universe, so joyful
—for Autumn's sudden arrival
short is how long Autumn can stay
silent is how loud we can pray
half obscured are the autumnal trees
some release are the aestival bees
living souls exultate themselves from the Daily Duty
when Mother Nature exposes herself in a naked beauty
in the epicenter of the universe, so exquisite
—for Autumn's temporary visit
as the West winds cease to blow
the brief buoyancy stops to flow
and the burlesque ballet comes to a baleful end
we lose grab of the vint that was once in our hand
then the spirits above begin to weep
and mortals cry themselves to sleep
in the epicenter of the universe, oh, what woeful reassignment
—for Autumn's humble retirement

Cared

with so many things I haven't seen
mediscoveries at the age of seventeen
that my idol has become my god
so to overcome the terrible woe
I took my walkman and headed for the city hall
on radio I heard Germany was rebuilding Berlin wall
someone said "mark I, mark I, today the Doomsday."
an old man said "you can all go, I am going to stay."
water steamed women screamed
curiously hopeless the world seemed
I didn't buy any of this
it wasn't where my nose was at
morosely I walked
porously my shadow stalked
hours passed I got to city hall
everybody cased, but the sky didn't fall
I saw flags swaying like jeans that hang loosely on people's waists
I heard mayor speaking like a king who's into nothing
but queen's breasts
he was saying "I came, I saw, I conquered."
everybody was saying "we voted, we worked, we despised."
my shadow was saying "I followed, I obeyed, I encumbered."
I was saying "I am sane, I am here, I am cured."

2000 Years After

the dark conspiracy of a fraudulent knight
ends the king's life in a turbulent sight
the queen weds the new king who right away enslaves
the whole nation
even though the priest righteously delivers a lengthy eulogy in desolation
he speaks devotedly in a foreign language no one will ever understand
meanwhile upon Napoleon's shoulders the white doves religiously stand
and the church bell starts ringing
as Quasimodo wrily starts grinning
but there's something in the air that's long forgotten
forgotten in a sense that remembering it is forbidden
the sounding policy of a capitalist government
digs a burial place for its heroic retirement
the mercenary president invites in the communist who knocks on the door
the guest brings him a present - communism - it swallows a country like a dinosaur
in triumph the beast thunderously roars
as the poor benefits and the rich suffers
and Elvis jumps out his grave in time so quick to dance with Jennifer Lopez on MuchMusic
but there's something in the air that's missing
missing for so long, nobody bothers even finding
the pointless quarrels of a fatefully destined couple
burns the ladder to their marriage that's almost ideal
the parentless baby boy cries so hard nobody gives a damn
mama gorilla comes and picks him up for the sake of fame
the baby grows up to become Tarzan
King Kong comes in the circle and suddenly is his best friend
then the CIA starts reading your personal mails
as the FBI attempts to tape your phone but fails
but there's something in the air that's deserving us
deserting us to grow on our own like wild funguses
the sudden perfect death of a romantic poet
draws together his loyal audience to Detroit
they put up a statue of him in commemoration
while a nameless prisoner dies of unjust accusation
for the dictionary of laws says he's guilty
and rules set pattern to random possibility
 $E=mc^2$, c is for Einstein
Beautes, B is for Brian of Epstein
but there's something in the air smelling funny
funny as in Partly Unpleasant, Naggingly Nosy, but Yummy
the distant cries for help of a desperate drowning man sound annoying so we waited for the cries to wane
until it's too late to save him
sooner or later all of us will be that victim
the universe may be stationary
our existence is only temporary
like that of a summer feather
like the Titanic that sinks like a feather
there's something in the air that will last as long as forever
it's the ultimate answer that we search for in despair



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